

The Watauga Democrat

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BOONE WATAUGA COUNTY, THURSDAY, August 26, 1915.

Address of John P. Arthur at the Masonic Picnic Held in Boone Saturday, August 14
Worshipful Master, and Ladies and Gentlemen:

Upon a recent visit to Cumberland Gap I was called on for an impromptu address, which, after two weeks of preparation I was prepared to make. But I didn't have any better sense than to announce at the outset of my preliminary remarks that I had no hesitation in declaring that I was decidedly the best looking man on the grounds. That was not saying much, as I thought, for that crowd of men was rather openly looking to my eye; but it was saying quite enough; for I wasn't allowed to say another word. Not that the men objected, but the wives and sweethearts of those present rose upon masses and put an end to my purely extemporaneous address.

Now, I really wasn't the best looking man on the grounds at Cumberland Gap; but I am the best looking man on the grounds here at Boone today. I say this in the hope that you will proceed to put an end to this extemporaneous address, for that is absolutely all I have to say.

But, if I have to go on, I will say without any hesitation, mental reservation or secret evasion of mind in me whatever, that I never saw a better looking lot of girls and married women than the galaxy of beauty I see assembled around this stand at this time. And that is only natural—that the best looking women and girls in the county should come out to meet the best looking young man. Some have asked why this best looking young man has never married any of these best looking old girls. The answer will be a paraphrase of ancient Free Masonry: "I have often tried, have always been denied; but am willing to try again."

Once upon a time there was an old sister whose position on the doctrine of falling from grace was unknown to her pastor. So he asked her if she believed in the doctrine of falling from grace? "My brother," she answered, "I not only believe in the doctrine of falling from grace, but, thank God, I practices it." I am like that old sister: I not only believe in the doctrine of falling from grace, but, thank God, I practices it also. For I swore off from making any more extemporaneous addresses; but I fall from grace the very first time I get a chance to do so.

Seriously, my friends, I am always greatly touched by the annual picnics which have been held on these grounds every year since I have been a resident of Boone. It seems to me to be the most spontaneous and genuine thing that takes place in this community. There is here no division among the people of any kind—politics, religion and social standing being obliterated absolutely on this occasion. All join hands to help the little children who are being taken care of by the people of the State of North Carolina under the management of that most ancient and honorable craft, known as Free Masons. For the Oxford Orphanage is not even called the Masonic Orphanage. It is a Masonic orphanage only in that it is managed and conducted by the Grand Lodge of the State. The State itself supervises its management by trustees appointed by the Governor, and there are only about one-fourth of the children under its care who are the orphans of deceased masons. All are admitted to its doors, without distinction of creed, politics or social caste. Therefore, it is supported by all

King Albert's Deserved Honor.

The people of Paris are preparing a peculiarly appropriate expression of appreciation for King Albert of Belgium in the sword of honor which they are to present to him. Albert has shown himself every inch a king in the face of national duty and national disaster, and none of the prominent figures in this great drama of blood and agony approaches him in royal dignity or moral greatness. He is worthy of the heroic nation of which he is the head, and it, no less than he, commands the admiration as well as the sympathy of mankind. No matter how this war shall end, no matter what the final terms of peace may be as to the other belligerents, any termination or any terms which leave Belgium's wrongs unremedied will constitute a lasting blot on international justice. She is the victim of national intrigues and ambitions which she could not control, and she has a higher claim than any other belligerent to compensation for her losses and sufferings.—Baltimore Sun.

Tough On the Mule

Come, let us consider the mule, the lowly mule which, here in a land of peace, is made to pull a plow preparing land and cultivating crops of cotton, corn, peas, cane and potatoes; and when the crop is laid by and the last furrow is made, is then taken to the block and sold to the agent of some bloomin' country which is at war. It looks pretty tough on the mule to have to pull a plow all spring and far into the summer in a land whose inhabitants claim to be praying for peace and at the same time are sending munitions of war by the shipload to the fighters, and then be taken to the block and sold as an "army mule"; and then to be sent across the waters and hooked up to a cannon or supply wagon and have the very life blown out by gun cotton which that same mule helped to make on a farm thousands of miles away from the scene of his death. It surely does look tough and if the mule could do as did one of his ancestors who was ridden by one Balaam, some years ago, open his mouth and speak, some pointed remarks might be submitted.—Monroe Enquirer.

states and conditions of society in the State. It is the father and mother of all other orphanages in this great old commonwealth, and sets the pace and example which all others strive to follow. It is a model upon which all others may build most profitably. It is an honor to the State, to the Masons and to the plain people of the State, who have, from the very first, given it their unstinted support. It is so firmly established that its future seems as assured as it is possible for any purely human institution to be. May it live long and prosper.

Watauga county has been blessed, however, above all others in the State; for in the summer of 1912 the Singing Class of that year spent several weeks with us here. No one ever saw better behaved or more affectionate and capable children—not even our own. These singing classes earn over and above all expenses at least ten thousand dollars a year for the orphanage. They are the principal source of income except that from the State itself. Having seen and known these children, we people of Watauga love to contribute whatever we may to their support and up-bringing. But, my friends, while the officers of the orphanage do all that is possible to take the place of parents to these bereaved little

No Excuse for Mrs. Warren

There is every reason why, if capital punishment is the law, Mrs. Warren should be electrocuted. She certainly forfeited her life in the part she played in her husband's transplanting. Even if she didn't really take a hand in the exercise, the fact that she saw his body thrown into a trunk and the trunk carried down the stairs to be dumped into a river, and she never batted her eye—well; that kind of a woman is very dangerous. The further fact that she unblushingly related her life of shame suggested that there was no particular reason why she should live.

If Mrs. Warren had been the dupe of some man; if, in the heat of an uncontrolled passion she had shot out the lights of some seducer or something of that kind, we could have sympathy for her. But her own testimony bore witness that she was a wanton. Her character was bad—and if she didn't take an active part in the murdering of her husband she unquestionably approved the proceedings. Electrocute her? Certainly. A woman is responsible for what she does, and in this case of wanton and deliberate murder, and worse, she should pay the bill in full.—Everything.

British Navy Does Some Sinking Also

Many people have wondered how it was that the German submarines continued to do so much business and the British navy seemed to be doing so little. Last week's issue of the American Army and Navy Journal asserts that about 50 German submarines have been destroyed since the war began and that 32 of these were destroyed by the British navy; but that Great Britain never officially announces her success unless the capture of survivors makes it necessary. The Army and Navy Journal is positive in its assertion and it doubtless has the facts correct; but the statement that Great Britain has successes that are not announced is surprising.—Statesville Landmark.

A textile made in China from raw silk can be buried in the earth a year without deteriorating.

ones, there is nothing that can fulfil a mother's or a father's part in the life of a child. And I am betraying no confidence when I say that there is probably no inmate of that orphanage who would not gladly go to any respectable home in this State where he or she would get a mother's love and a father's protection. The officers will not allow any child to be adopted into any home, however refined or wealthy, in which that child is not to be treated as a child of that home, and never once as a servant. Each adopted orphan must have a child's part and a child's place in any home into which it is allowed to go. And I honor the officers of the orphanage for that stand. They are not rearing up servants, but free men and free women.

It is but natural that these children should want a home, each for him and herself, for "men's hearts crave tangible, close tenderness, love's presence warm and near." To the child each father should be in "every storm of life as rock and oak and in the sunshine vine and flower." "None, like a mother, can drive away pain From the sick soul and the world-weary brain: Come from the silence, so long and so deep; Rock me to sleep, mother; rock me to sleep."

Why Mr. Carter Lost

E Bunyan Carter, a candidate for Lieutenant Governor of Mississippi, rode an "old gray horse" in his canvass of the State, saying he was unable to pay his fare on the railroads. He was defeated in the primaries. It is more than probable that Mr. Carter thought his style of campaign would appeal to the common people; that he was moved to that course more by the idea of obtaining votes than by his inability to pay railroad fare; in short, Mr. Carter was probably demagoging and got left at it.

The idea that "playing poor" will always appeal to folks who have little themselves is a mistaken one. The people generally expect their public officials to live in a style becoming their station. They may object to too much style, or to a disposition to lord it over them and put on airs. But the candidate who tries to play the "poor man" game is usually sized up for what he is. The people resent that sort of business. They are not fools, even if they do allow themselves to be imposed on rather frequently. The latter fact is more an evidence of good nature and tolerance than a lack of knowledge.—Statesville Landmark.

Becker Case Recalls Harris Case

Mrs. Charles Becker was not the first woman who made the coffin of an executed murderer carry her message of revolt and indictment of the law and its agents for taking her loved one. This advertisement was paid for by Mrs. Charles L. Harris and published in New York newspapers on May 9, 1893:

"HARRIS—Carlyle Wentworth, eldest son of Charles L. and Frances McCready Harris. Judicially murdered May 8, 1893."

The plate on the coffin of Carlyle W. Harris, executed for poisoning his school-girl wife, Helen Neilson Potts, was marked under instructions of Harris' mother, and read thus:

CARLYLE W. HARRIS
Aged 23 years, 7 months and 15 days. Murdered May 8, 1893.

"We would not if we had known."—The Jury.

Mrs. Harris, who fought with vigor and determination to save her son through every day of the two years between his arrest and execution, carried her faith in him and her wrath toward his prosecutors to his grave and beyond!—N. Y. Herald.

Georgia's Quandary

In spite of the enthusiasm for law enforcement manifested by the Georgia lynchers, we do not anticipate that many of them will surrender themselves to the authorities with the request that they be executed. We shall be surprised if a single one is arrested and convicted of anything. In too many sections it is the unwritten law that lynching shall not be punished. Even men who shake their heads disapprovingly when the acts are committed would under no circumstances aid in the prosecution of the offenders or give evidence that would establish their identity. Practically every lynching investigation is a hollow farce, which would be humorous were it not ghastly. And yet if there was ever a situation that demanded action by a State Government that situation faces Georgia. Aside from the question of Frank's guilt or innocence, no State government was ever more wantonly insulted than was this one when its penal institution was invaded and its prisoner slain. It is for Georgia and Georgia alone to say whether or not that procedure is to its liking.—Charlotte Observer.

Man's Decreasing Height

In recent years anatomists have shown in a practical way that the height of a man or woman can be increased to a considerable extent by appliances for stretching. These extensions, however, have only been of inches or fractions of an inch and giants have not been nor are they likely to be developed by artificial means.

It was a French savant named Henrion who, 200 years ago, gave to the world authoritative statements as to the height of Adam and Eve. He said that the father of the race was 128 feet 9 inches high and Eve 118 feet 9 inches. He noted that from the creation of these enlarged editions of humanity degeneration had been rapid, that Noah was only 27, Abraham only 20 and Moses but 13 feet in height. According to this French authority, if the Christian dispensation had not arrested this decrease, man by his time, 200 years ago, would have been a mere microscopic object, and we may conclude that by our time he would not have been at all. Monsieur Henrion did not give any explanation as to how he arrived at his estimate of the height of these ancients.

Perhaps the most gigantic story on record is that concerning an immense skeleton said to have been found in Sicily which measured 300 feet in length. This story, however, carries its own refutation as it is said that found beside this giant was his walking stick which was 30 feet long and thick as a telegraph pole. A clever calculator made the estimate that a walking stick only 80 feet in length for a man who measured 300 feet would be as ridiculous as one of seven inches for a man of ordinary stature.—Indianapolis News.

The Bull Moose—Two Kinds

At three years the bull moose (Alces machilis americanus) usually reaches his full natural growth. His antlers have attained their characteristic form; that is, they project on each side at right angles to the middle line of the skull, and after a short distance divide in a fork-like manner (Encyclopedia Britannica), some pointing in a Republican direction (not the Encyclopedia Britannica.) The antlers, which constitute the main offensive weapon of the bull moose, flatten out very markedly by the end of the third year (Britannica), from which it would appear that the survival of the animal after that period depends less on its native powers than on diplomacy (not the Britannica.) The usual pace is a shambling trot, but when pressed, the elk, or moose, break into a gallop (Britannica), with a tendency to take shelter in their native Republican "moose-yard" (not the Britannica.) In America the elk is known as the moose, and the former name is transferred to the wapiti deer (Britannica), but in American politics the name moose is assumed or disregarded according to the fluctuations of the direct primary.—N. Y. Evening Post.

NOTICE

I will be in Boone during the first three days of court for the purpose of testing eyes, fitting glasses, etc. If in need of work call on me at the Blackburn Hotel.
A. W. DULA,
Optometrist.

DENTAL WORK

I will be at Boone, Monday, September 6th, remaining for a few days for the purpose of doing any and all kinds of Dental Work. Office in the "Brick Row."
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